

The Hong Kong Daily Press.

No. 9210

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HONG KONG, THURSDAY, JULY 12th, 1887.

二拜禮 號二十月七英華香

(PRICE \$1 PER MONTH)

1887.

INTIMATIONS.

ARRIVALS.

July 10, AUBRAY, British str., 1,489, Ed. Porter, Nagasaki 5th July, Coals.—ADAMSON, BELL & CO.

July 11, TEHERAN, British steamer, 1,771, F. H. Seymour, Yokohama 3rd July, Mails and General—P. & O. S. N. Co.

July 11, YORKSHIRE, British steamer, 1,425, O. J. H. Arnold, Nagasaki 4th July, Coals.—RUSSELL & CO.

July 11, THE MATTE, British steamer, 1,425, E. Beagle, Honolulu 3rd June, General—GONZALEZ & CO.

July 11, POLYTHYNA, German steamer, 1,083, W. Schaefer, Hamburg and Singapore 5th July, General—SIEMENS & CO.

July 11, CHING-WO, British steamer, 1,666, R. H. Macpherson, Saigon 7th July, Rice and General—ARNOLD, KARBERG & CO.

July 11, ANTON, German steamer, 396, E. Aerebo, Pakhoi 7th July, and Hoihoi 9th, General—WILHELM & CO.

July 11, MALWA, British steamer, 1,707, G. W. Atkinson, Shanghai 9th July, Mails and General—P. & O. S. N. Co.

CLEARANCES.

AT THE HARBOUR MASTER'S OFFICE.

11th JULY

Fokkoeng, British str., for Shanghai.
Diamante, British str., for Amoy.
Wai-tung, Chinese str., for Tientsin.
Kwang-ting, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
Mare, German str., for Haiphong.
Orient, German bark, for Takao.
Providence, British str., for Manila.

DEPARTURES.

July 11, FOKKOENG, British str., for Shanghai.
CITY OF LIVERPOOL, British str., for Tientsin.
July 11, KWANG-TING, Chinese str., for Shanghai.

PASSAGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Teheran, str., from Yokohama, &c.—For Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Wilcox, Messrs. Caldwell, Wienke, Lieut. W. Leggett, R.N., 4 Officers, 100 Distressed miners, 1000 men, from Yoko-hama—F. K. Koebe—Mr. J. McFarlane—Miss Nusakawa—Mrs. Wright, 2 children and son, Mr. P. R. Russell, and 3 Japanese. For Singapore—Mr. Soozon, from Yokohama. For Bombay—Mr. G. Dessa, from Kobe. For Marseilles—Mr. J. Flagg, from Yokohama. For London—Mr. and Mrs. J. H. T. Turner, infant and an infant, from Yokohama.

For Kwang-Ting, N. China, bks., from Honolulu—7 Journals and 81 Chineses.

For Ching-wo, str., from Saigon—211 Chinese.

Per Polythyne, str., from Hamburg, &c.—137 Chinese.

Per Anton, str., from Pakhoi, &c.—Mr. T. Hart, and 251 Chinese.

Per Malwa, str., from Shanghai—For Hongkong—M. de Caicedo and Chinese servant, Count Alvarado and Chinese servant and 2 attendants, N. V. P. P. P. and 2 children, G. Burchell, W. T. Martin, A. J. E. C. Burchell, E. B. Porter and Chinese servant, and 5 Chinese. For London—Mr. T. P. Bullivant, and a Chinese amah.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Yorkshire*, from Nagasaki 4th July, reports from Nagasaki to Chapel Island light wind and fine weather from thence to Hongkong strong S.E. winds and heavy sea.

The German steamer *Polythyne*, from Hamburg and Singapore 5th July, reports had moderate S.E. winds between Singapore and Cape Verolla; from Cape Verolla to Parcels strong S.E. gale.

The British steamer *Aubrey*, from Nagasaki 5th July, reports from Nagasaki to Chapel Island light wind and fine weather from thence to Hongkong strong S.E. winds and heavy sea.

The British steamer *Ching-wo*, from Saigon 7th July, reports from Saigon to Parcels equally weather, wind from S.S.W., N.W. and N.E., fresh wind and little rain, calls between squalls, up to 100 miles from Parcels—Hongkong strong E. and S.E. winds with violent squalls, wind and rain and high seas. On the 7th July, passed the telegraph steamer *Recorder*, working at cable near Britto Bank.

AMOY SHIPPING.

July—
1. Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.
2. Xangtung, British str., from Shanghai.
3. Chi-nan, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
4. Johann Kramer, Ger. str., from Nanchang.
5. Swatow, British str., from Swatow.

6. Galveston, British bark, from Chefoo.

7. Bylgia, German bark, from Newchwang.

8. Francaise, German bark, from Nanchang.

9. Zafir, British str., from Foochow.

10. Chao Bihung, British bark, from Foochow.

11. L'Avreux, British str., from Nanchang.

12. Louis, German str., from Newchwang.

13. Christian, German str., from Newchwang.

14. Therese, German bark, from Foochow.

15. Halphon, British str., from Hongkong.

16. Lorrie, British str., from Hongkong.

17. Thales, British str., from Tsinwan.

18. Omega, British str., from Chefoo.

19. DEPARTURES.

20. Fokkoeng, British str., from Tamsui.

21. Camelot, British str., from Swatow.

22. Formosa, British str., for Hongkong.

23. Yarzette, British str., for Hongkong.

24. Zafir, British str., for Swatow.

25. Zafir, British str., for Foochow.

26. Halphon, British str., for Foochow.

27. Chi-nan, Chinese str., for Swatow.

28. Thales, British str., for Swatow.

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27. Chi-nan, Chinese str.,

NOW READY. 1887
THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORI
FOR 1887.
(With which is incorporated
THE CHINESE DIRECTORY,
(TWO-PART ANNUAL ISSUE),
COMPILED WITH APPENDIX, PLANS, &c., &c.,
Total 500 pp. 1,158.....\$5.00.
SMALLER EDITION, by L. S. CO., pp. 776.....\$3.00.

THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORI
has been thoroughly revised and brought up
to date, and is again much increased in bulk.

It contains DESCRIPTIVE and STATISTICAL
ACCOUNTS of and DIRECTORIES for
HONGKONG, JAPAN—
Nagasaki
Osaka
Kobe (Hyogo).
Do. Military Forces. Osaka.
Do. Chinese Haags. Tokyo.
MACAO.
China—
Pakhoi.
Hankow.
Wuhsien.
Canton.
Swatow.
Amoy.
Takao.
Taiwan.
Kulang.
Fookow.
Ningpo.
Shanghai.
Chinkiang.
Wuhu.
Kinkia.
Hankow.
Ichang.
Chingting.
Ciafo.
Taku.
Tientsin.
Peking.
Port Arthur.
Nowshwang.
CORSA.
Sicily.
Jesudan.
Yamase.
PORT HAMILTON.
VLADIVOSTOK.—
NAVAL SQUADRONS—
British French.
United States. German.
Japan. Chinese Northern.
Ships of Officers of the Coaling Steamers of
P. & S. N. C. China & Manila S. S. Co.
Messer. Maritime. H. C. & M. S. B. Co.
Japan Y. S. S. Co. Scottish Oriental S. S. Co.
Douglas S. N. C. Miscellaneous Coast
China Mer. S. N. C. Steamers.

THE LIST OF RESIDENTS now contains
the names of
THIRTEEN THOUSAND AND FIVE HUNDRED
FOREIGNERS
arranged under one Alphabet in the strictest
order, the initials as well as the surnames
being alphabetical.

The MAPS and PLANS have been mostly
reduced in a superior style and brought up
to date. They now consist of
PLATE OF MERCANTILE HOUSES IN CHINA.
CODE OF SIGNALS IN USE AT VICTORIA PEAK.
MAP OF THE FAR EAST.
MAP OF THE ISLAND OF HONGKONG.
PLAN OF THE CITY OF VICTORIA.
PLAN OF MOUNTAIN DISTRICT, VICTORIA.
PLAN OF KOWLOON.
PLAN OF MANILA.
PLAN OF SAIGON.
PLAN OF TOWN AND ENVIRONS OF SINGAPORE.
PLAN OF GEORGE TOWN, PENANG.

Among the other contents of the book are—
An Anglo-Chinese Calendar, Moon Barometer and Thermometer, Rainfall, &c.
A full account of remarkable events since
the advent of foreigners to China and Japan.
A description of Chinese Festivals, Fasts, &c.,
with the days on which they fall.
Comparative Tables of Money, Weights, &c.
New Scale of Hongkong Stamp Duties.
The Hongkong Postal Guide for 1887.
Arrivals and Departures of Ships and Parcel
Post at New London and Hongkong.
Scales of Compensation and Charges adopted by
the Chambers of Commerce of Hongkong,
Shanghai, Amoy and Nowshwang.
Hongkong Chair, Jirikisha, and Boat Hire.

The APPENDIX consists of
FOUR HUNDRED PAGES
of closely printed matter, to which reference is
constantly required by residents and those
having commercial or political relations with the
countries embraced within the scope of the
CHRONICLE and DIRECTORY.
The Contents of the Appendix are too numerous
to recapitulate in an Advertisement, but
include—
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" " China, with Additional Article
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EXTRACTS.

THE FRENCH SOLDIER.

The French soldier is allowed two meals a day; the first at nine in the morning, and the second at four in the afternoon. Slowed motion is a frequent dish. On Thursdays and Sundays the meat is baked with potatoes round it. All joints are bought of the butchers of the locality where the barracks are situated, by batches of soldiers told off for the purpose; and they take care that the meat is properly chosen and weighed before they carry it away. Every Friday preserved meat is given out—not for the sake of economy, but in order that the stock which is kept in the event of war shall be continually replenished. A very common dish consists of a piece of boiled meat placed upon haricot beans, rice, mashed potatoes, or macaroni. Every morning in winter a small quantity of black coffee and bread is served out, and this is also done in summer during the manoeuvres or when a regiment is on the march. Each man has a loaf weighing three pounds given to him every other day. The bread is made partly from rye and partly from wheat, and its colour is very dark. The Government provides the army with tobacco—not gratuitously, but at a very cheap rate. Every fortnight the soldier is entitled to a large packet weighing about the fifth part of a pound in return for three sous. This tobacco is the genuine caporal; it is very coarse, and is usually smoked in pipes because of the difficulty of making cigarettes with it. No wine is given to the French soldier, nor any alcoholic liquor except the small quantity of brandy already mentioned. He therefore drinks water with his meals, and if he has the means, takes his wine out of doors. It is understood that every Frenchman shall fulfil his period of military service without pay; but, although the law is explicit on the point, it is not strictly carried out. The soldier receives from Government one sou a day, and it is paid to him every five days. This is his pocket money; and it will be allowed that he cannot go to much excess with it. Those, however, who are poor and friendless have various facilities afforded them, provided that their general conduct be good, for earning money.

LAUGHTER.

There is a very familiar definition of laughter, or rather of the cause of laughter, which is much more frequently quoted than understood. The definition ascribes it to a sense of the incongruous, unaccompanied with a painful association. All genuine laughter is sudden, and everyone experiences fatigue at a repeated joke. It is doubtful whether any audience could enjoy the same incongruity is the main point; and, in establishing or promoting this, association of ideas lends its subtle aid. A few seasons ago the Chinese Ambassador was all a'fancy ball, in his own appropriate costume. The dresses of almost all nationalities were represented at the gathering, but at one of them the Ambassador was observed to be moved to irresistible laughter. And what was most strange was that it was at the dress of a Chinaman. There were some very funny costumes in the room, but these had no effect upon him. When, however, he saw what was presumably his own countryman, he laughed with as much heartiness as was consistent with the dignity of an Oriental Ambassador. Later in the evening, his secretary explained the source of his mirth, which is that the Ambassador had quite unconsciously assumed the dress of a Chinese woman. Here, clearly, it was the incongruous, unaccompanied with any painful association, that provoked laughter. It is clear the dress was not in itself ludicrous, as the rest of the company could not make out the source of the merriment. Probably for the same reason every Englishman has laughed the first time he has seen a sweep in a German village wearing a tall hat. Nothing could be more unexpected or more incongruous. This, that we have been considering is the most popular explanation of laughter, and probably the truest one.

There is another, less complimentary, to the innocence of birth. It attributes laughter to a certain form of vanity, to a sudden glory over the thing or the person laughed at. This, indeed, robes it, not merely of its innocence, but of its sympathy. We pass, when we adopt it, from mirth to cynicism. Mr. Wang was asked some questions, describing the guests at a dinner party—because he was so clever; and Mr. Batt was asked to meet Mr. Wang. This running down of a victim for the applause of a company is certainly the least attractive form of laughter, and the merriment that arises from it may be due to the perception of the incongruous, but certainly not to it unaccompanied with painful associations. Now, it is curious that this kind of laughter belongs at once to a high intellectual and to the lowest intellectual form of the enjoyment of the ludicrous. It has nothing to do with broad farce, but has everything to do with constrained humour. It is distinctly not spontaneous. The funniness of the great Wagg in Thackeray's account was not apparent till the unfortunate Butt was present to be operated upon. Even then the laughter is cold and artificial. It is rather galvanic than explosive, and is, indeed, based on a strange sense of superiority, proceeding from the gratification of the lowest type of vanity. The man who laughs at his own joke, no doubt believes himself to be wittier than his neighbours, and pays tribute to what he recognises as his own merit. There is, indeed, a side of laughter which touches upon cruelty. We see it in refined natures, and call it cynicism. But it belongs to simple as well as gentle. It is an uncommon sight to meet country boys hounding down an idiot or laughing at a harmless madman. The perception of the iniquitous may, indeed, be there, but it is not the incongruous "unaccompanied with the painful." In states of society that were less refined than our own we come upon the same experience in the institution of the jester or the fool. The kind heart and broad humanity of Shakespeare gave a new position to a character that in the plays of other dramatists posses merely as a buffoon. Shakespeare's Fools are satirists, and for the most part, in intellect high above the level of those who laugh at them. King Lear and his nobles constantly threaten to whip the Fool, whose tongue is more merciless in its last even than the virulent invective of Regan or Goneril. And what we see with the dramatist in the Fool, we find in the painters with the Dwf. Paul Veronese dignifies them by employment, using them to hold in dogs or carry ladies' trains; but the mind that found a source of enjoyment in their stunted growth, was of the same kind, as that of the country bumpkin who laughs at the awkward gait or drivelling ventures of the idiot of village.

But over and above these sources of laughter there remains a cause which seems to spring from exuberant natural spirits, or else in a reaction from gloom or depression. We know the laugh of the light-hearted, the *cour leger* of the French, and what *Tennyson* calls "the wild hysterics of the Cels." Dean Swift gave it as the result of his experience that the gayest faces were to be seen in mourning coaches. Swift's love of satire caused him to miss the less obvious expression of a strange truth. It is not because people are hypocrites that, when they think they are unnoticed, they relax from their assumed grieves; the relaxation is only an effort of Nature to relieve the weight of the burden of depression. Every one is conscious of the irressistible weight that

assorts itself at unseasonable times. It is told in the "Life of John Wolfe" that he and his brother early in their career set apart one particular day to sing hymns together in the fields. They went forth for their solemn exercises full of devotion, but as one of them raised the sacred strain he was struck with the absurdity of the position and burst out laughing, and to that laughter his companion soon contributed hearty share. The brothers had to go home that day with their pious resolution unachieved. On several other occasions they tried it, but after repeated failures gave it up. This with but certainly nothing to do with hypocrisy. The laughter of children in church at the slightest *contretemps* in the course of a service is due to the same cause. It is not that their songs of the ludicrous is keener; in fact, this quality generally comes with maturity. But it is that the grain of stout rope, perhaps to fall clean, like a bombshell, into the midst of some fishy family party. Only a killif, which is nothing more than a big stone, can safely be used for mooring on rocky ground like this, for the chances are ten to one if you drop an anchor proper you will never get it up again.

And now, after nearly an hour's run, we have arrived at the place where we and the conger hope to meet—that is, we hope to meet the serpents; they, no doubt, could dispense with our company. It is but the work of a minute or two, and the sails are down and properly reefed, while the killif is rushing down at the end of 90 fathoms of stout rope, perhaps to fall clean, like a bombshell, into the midst of some fishy family party. Only a killif, which is nothing more than a big stone, can safely be used for mooring on rocky ground like this, for the chances are ten to one if you drop an anchor proper you will never get it up again.

A few minutes more and we have four lines—in all twelve hooks overboard, each baited with a tempting piece of squid, well beaten to make it tender; for the conger, though voracious, is without a particular taste, and likes not meat tough.

CLARET, CHATEAU LARDE.

CLARET, CHATEAU LARDE.